

First named inventor: Karamatas
Serial no. 10/644,133
Filed 8/20/2003
Attorney docket no. BEA920030013US1

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REMARKS

Claim rejections under 35 USC 101

Claim 20 has been rejected under 35 USC 101 as being directed to a non-statutory intangible embodiment. Without prejudice, Applicant has cancelled claim 20.

Claim objections

Claims 5, 7, 8, and 11 have been objected to. Claim 5 has been objected to as being of improper decedent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant respectfully traverses the objection to claim 5, in that the subject matter of claim 5 is clearly different than that of claim 4. For instance, claim 4 is directed to performing the method parts, steps, or acts in relation to a node to which the I/O device is connected. By comparison, claim 5 is directed to performing similar method parts, steps, or acts in relation to a different kind of node, a node at which the interrupt service routine for the I/O device resides. These can be two different nodes, such that claims 4 and 5 are directed to different subject matter. For instance, as stated in the background section of the patent application as filed, "an interrupt service routine (ISR) for an I/O device may reside on a first NUMA node, where the I/O device may itself be connected to a second NUMA node." (P. 1, ll. 23-24)

Claims 7, 8, and 11 have been objected to because the language "one of the plurality of nodes" and "one or more of the plurality of nodes" is believed by the Examiner as being unclear. While Applicant does not necessarily agree with the Examiner in this respect, to advance the present patent application towards allowance, claims 7 and 8 have been amended so that this language instead reads "one of the nodes" and "one or more of the nodes," as suggested by the Examiner. Claim 11 has been cancelled, but insofar as its subject matter has been incorporated into claim 7, as described below, the claim language of claim 11 as added to claim 7 has also been modified as suggested by the Examiner. Applicant notes that this amendment and modification does not change the substance of these claims in any way, however.

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Claim rejections under 35 USC 102 as to claims 1-6

Claims 1-6 have been rejected as being anticipated by Kiick (2003/0200250). Claim 1 is an independent claim, from which claims 2-6 ultimately depend. Claim 1 has been amended to substantially recite the subject matter of claim 13, which has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter. More specifically, claim 1 has been amended "such that primary preference in assigning each interrupt is given to the node to which the I/O device of the interrupt is connected," where this language is similar to that which is found in claim 13. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 1, and claims 2-6 that ultimately depend therefrom, are patentable.

Claim rejections under 35 USC 102 as to claims 7-15

Claims 7-10, 12, and 15 have been rejected as being anticipated by Kiick. Claims 11, 13, and 14 have been objected to as containing allowable subject matter, and which would be allowed if rewritten in independent form, including the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. Claim 7 is an independent claim, from which claims 8-15 ultimately depend.

Applicant has amended claim 7 to at least substantially recite the subject matter of objected-to claim 11, and has cancelled claim 11. Thus, claim 7 has been amended "wherein each of one or more of the nodes is memoryless and processorless." While claim 11 depended from claim 8, and not directly from claim 7, Applicant has not included the subject matter of claim 8 into claim 7. The reason why is that upon review of Kiick in detail, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of claim 11 alone is sufficient to render claim 7 patentable, without having to also include the subject matter of claim 8. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 7, and claims 8-10 and 12-15 that ultimately depend therefrom, are patentable.

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Claim rejections under 35 USC 102 as to claims 16-20

Claims 16-20 have been rejected as being anticipated by Kiick. Claim 16 is an independent claim, from which claims 17-20 ultimately depend. Claim 20 has been cancelled, as noted above. Claim 16 has been amended in the same way as to which claim 1 has been amended, as discussed above. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 16, and claims 17-19 that ultimately depend therefrom, are patentable.

Claim rejections under 35 USC 102 as to claims 21-24

Claims 21-24 have been rejected as being anticipated by Kiick. Claim 21 is an independent claim, from which claims 22-24 ultimately depend. Claim 21 has been amended in the same way as to which claim 1 has been amended, as discussed above. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 21, and claims 22-24 that ultimately depend therefrom, are patentable.

Claim rejections under 35 USC 102 as to claims 25-30

Claims 25-30 have been rejected as being anticipated by Kiick. Claim 25 is an independent claim, from which claims 26-30 ultimately depend. Claim 25 has been amended in the same way as to which claim 1 has been amended, as discussed above. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 25, and claims 26-30 that ultimately depend therefrom, are patentable.

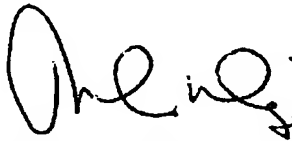
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Conclusion

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the pending claims in condition for allowance, and request that they so be allowed. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Mike Dryja, Applicant's representative, at 425-427-5094, so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Date

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